

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A hair holder, comprising:

a flat tube having a sheet which forms a first side and a sheet which forms a second side to allow a hair bundle to be inserted from an opening at one end of the tube toward an opening at an other end thereof such that, when the hair holder is rolled up, the sheet which forms the first side is on an outside of the tube,

the sheet which forms the first side of the tube is more extensible in a length direction of the tube than the sheet which forms the second side of the tube,

the sheet which forms the second side of the tube has a Taber stiffness of 0.4 mNm or higher, [[and]]

the sheet which forms the first side has an extensibility of at least 15 times an extensibility of the sheet which forms the second side under a load of 5 N₁

the extensibility of the sheet which forms the first side is 10% or higher under the load of 5 N, and

the extensibility of the sheet which forms the second side is 5% or less under the load of 5 N.

Claim 2 and 3 (Canceled).

Claim 4 (Withdrawn): The hair holder according to claim 1, wherein the sheet which forms the first side has a large number of openings making the sheet extensible.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): The hair holder according to claim 1, wherein the sheet is permeable to a hair treating agent.

Claim 6 (Withdrawn): The hair holder according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the sheet which forms the first side and the sheet which forms the second side has a large number of through-holes each having a smooth edge on one side thereof, and the sheet which forms the first side and the sheet which forms the second side are joined together with a side having a smooth edge facing inside the tube.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The hair holder according to claim 1, wherein the tube is configured to roll itself up into a prescribed shape and to keep the rolled up state.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): A method of treating hair, comprising:

employing a hair holder including a flat tube having a sheet which forms a first side and a sheet which forms a second side, the sheet which forms the first side of the tube is more extensible in the length direction of the tube than the sheet which forms the second side of the tube, the sheet which forms the second side of the tube has a Taber stiffness of 0.4 mNm or higher, [[and]] the sheet which forms the first side has an extensibility of at least 15 times an extensibility of the sheet which forms the second side under a load of 5 N, the extensibility of the sheet which forms the first side is 10% or higher under the load of 5 N, and the extensibility of the sheet which forms the second side is 5% or less under the load of 5 N;

inserting a hair bundle through an opening at one end of the tube of the hair holder toward an opening at an other end thereof; and

rolling up the tube having the hair therein with the first side thereof facing out.

Claim 9 (Canceled).

Claim 10 (Withdrawn): The hair holder according to claim 1, wherein
the sheet which forms the first side has a plurality of rows, each of the rows including
two horizontal openings,
the horizontal openings in alternate rows overlap one another in a vertical direction,
and
the plurality of rows of the horizontal openings are configured to make the sheet
extensible.

Claim 11 (Withdrawn): The hair holder according to claim 1, wherein
the sheet which forms the first side has a plurality of rows, each of the rows including
three oblique openings,
the oblique openings in alternate rows overlap one another in a vertical direction, and
the plurality of rows of the oblique openings are configured to make the sheet
extensible.

Claim 12 (Withdrawn): The hair holder according to claim 1, wherein
the sheet which forms the first side includes a plurality of rectangular pieces, and
each rectangular piece is configured to partially overlap an adjacent rectangular piece
in a horizontal direction, and
the plurality of overlapping rectangular pieces are configured to make the sheet
extensible.

Claim 13 (Withdrawn): The hair holder according to claim 12, wherein each of the
plurality of rectangular pieces is only bonded to the adjacent rectangular piece at side edges
thereof.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): The hair holder according to claim 1, wherein the sheet which forms the first side has the extensibility of at least 30 times the extensibility of the sheet which forms the second side under the load of 5 N.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 8, wherein the sheet which forms the first side has the extensibility of at least 30 times the extensibility of the sheet which forms the second side under the load of 5 N.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 8, further comprising:

providing a reinforcing strip in the hair holder having a glass transition temperature at or above a room temperature.